

### AMENDMENTS TO THE ABSTRACT

Applicant submits that the following amendments to the abstract are supported throughout the specification and that no new matter has been added.

**Please amend the abstract by replacing it with the following:**

Methods, systems and securities for assuring a company an opportunity to sell stock (e.g., common stock) after a specified time are disclosed. In one embodiment, a sale, by a company to an other entity, of a security may be issued, consisting of: (i) a post-paid forward contract which obligates the other entity to purchase a fixed number of shares stock of the company; and (ii) debt. In one embodiment, a purchase, by the company from the other entity, of a pre-paid forward contract may be issued, which obligates the other entity to deliver to the company a variable number of shares of stock in the company. The number of shares underlying the pre-paid forward contract may be calculated based on a formula that is a function of a then-current stock price and a remaining maturity associated with the pre-paid forward contract.